

FIG. 2A

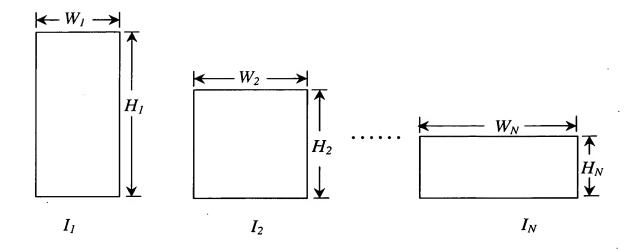


FIG. 2B

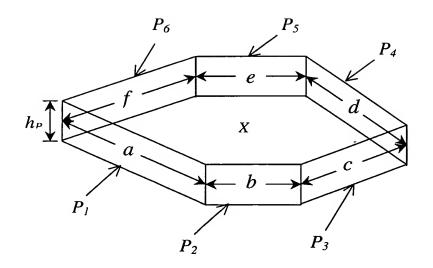


FIG. 2C

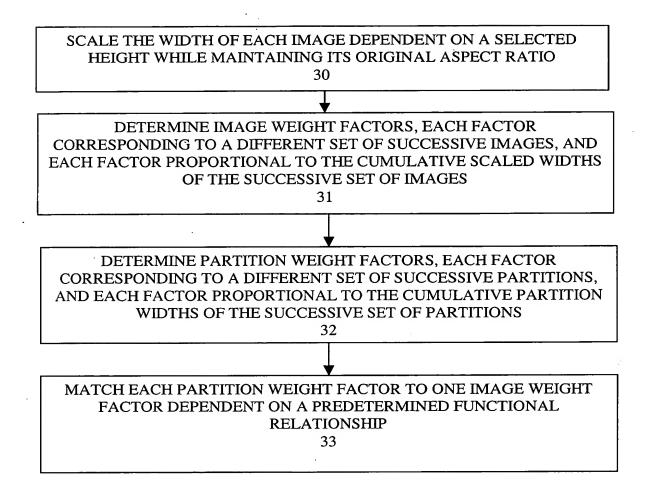


FIG. 3

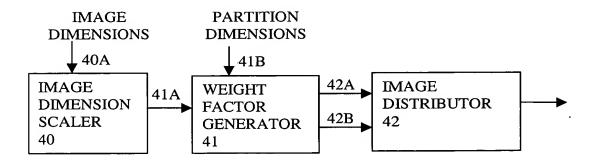


FIG. 4

## REPRESENT A DATABASE OF OBJECTS WITH A HIERARCHICAL TREE DERIVED FROM OBJECT METADATA

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PRE-ASSIGN A PREDETERMINED PARENT NODE AN AREA CORRESPONDING TO AN UNDIVIDED THREE-DIMENSIONAL GRAPHICAL ENVIRONMENT

51

STARTING WITH THE PREDETERMINED NODE, FOR EACH AREA CORRESPONDING TO EACH PARENT NODE HAVING AT LEAST TWO ASSOCIATED CHILD NODES, RECURSIVELY PARTITION THE AREA INTO A PLURALITY OF AREAS CORRESPONDING TO EACH OF THE ASSOCIATED CHILD NODES SUCH THAT THE AREAS ARE PROPORTIONAL TO CHILD NODE WEIGHTS

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DISTRIBUTE REPRESENTATIVE IMAGES OF DATA OBJECTS GROUPED DEPENDENT ON THE OBJECT METADATA WITHIN EACH PARTITIONED AREA ACCORDING TO FIGS. 2A OR 3

53

FIG. 5A

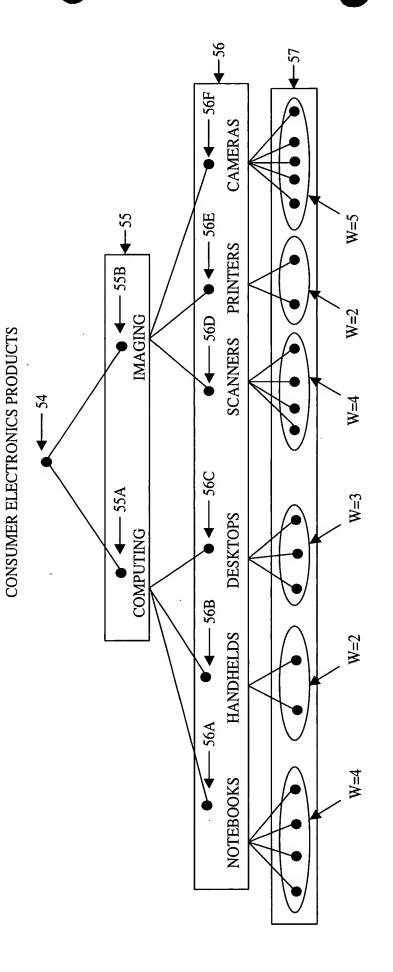


FIG. 5B

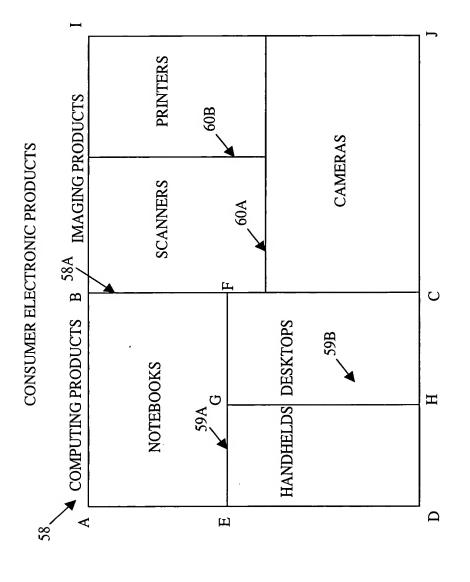


FIG. 5C